

City Council Meeting Minutes **Monday, January 28, 2013 - 6:00 PM**

OPENING

Presiding: Mayor Frank Thayer

Council Present: Councilors Paul Canter and Harry Myers.

Council Excused: Councilor Brandy Rainey was excused but was present for councilor selection.
Council President David Ballard was excused.

Others Present: City employees: Chief Operating Officer Jim Minard and Recorder Barb Johnston.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Frank Thayer called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Councilor Paul Canter led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATH of OFFICE

Mayor Frank Thayer was sworn in by City Recorder Barb Johnston. Councilor Lonnie Koroush was sworn in by Mayor Frank Thayer.

Applicants for the vacant Council position, Daniel Sheets and former Councilor Carol McGlasson, presented their reasons for wanting to serve on the Monroe City Council. Councilor Harry Myers made a motion to select one of the two applicants by vote of Council. Councilor Paul Canter seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Council voted to accept Carol McGlasson's application.

Mr. Minard noted that there were vacancies on the Planning Commission and suggested perhaps Daniel Sheets would like to serve. Councilor Paul Canter made a motion to appoint Mr. Sheets to the Planning Commission. Councilor Harry Myers seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Carol McGlasson was sworn in by Mayor Frank Thayer.

Councilor Harry Myers made a motion to elect Councilor Paul Canter as Council President. Councilor Carol McGlasson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC ITEMS and COMMENTS

The South Benton Nutrition Program, (SBNP), Legion Hall issues were discussed. Mayor Frank Thayer noted that he'd been in contact with a prominent door company in Eugene concerning replacing or doing a major overhaul of the front door. Mr. Prowse, Board member of the SBNP, asked if the cement platform at the top of the stairs could be repaired and if the thorny bushes on the side of the wheelchair ramp could be cut back or replaced. He further requested that the entrance to the door be remodeled, graffiti removed, paint it and perhaps a farm mural painted on the east side of building. Mayor Frank Thayer noted that the mural might not be economically feasible at this time. Mr. Minard indicated that CH2MHill has been instructed to keep the bushes cut back until Council gives further direction. They have also been instructed to look at the concrete at the top of the stairs. Mrs. Prowse, Board member of the SBNP, presented an alternative venting plan for the two new stoves they would like to install in the kitchen of the Legion Hall. Council determined that the Benton County Building Department needed to be contacted to review the plans. Mr. Minard was to contact them on Wednesday.

Drainage issues around the City were documented via photos by Tim Eastridge. He said that drainage ditches had filled in all over town, noting that a big ditch with a catch basin at 7th and 8th would work correctly if it was cleaned. Tim further noted that the ditches beyond 6th Street that drain into a pipe/culvert at Pine Street and from there into the ditches that take drainage to the culverts that go under Highway 99 all need to be dug out. A cost effective way to accomplish this would be to have Monroe's Municipal Court Judge assign any community service recipients ditch digging duties. It was also mentioned that the boy scouts might clean out the ditches as one of their community service projects. Mr. Minard indicated that the City was working on getting a grant with some principal forgiveness but the engineering and plan design portion alone could cost anywhere from \$78,000 to \$115,000.

Gravel for the easement to Verna Terry's driveway at 380 N. 6th was requested by Ms. Terry for a second time after the 2012 flooding covered the easement with several feet of water and washed away the remaining gravel with its departure, leaving a slippery muddy mess. Councilor Harry Myers made a motion to have a load of gravel delivered to 6th Street from Verna's driveway to Pine Street. Councilor Lonnie Koroush seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Minard would order gravel on Wednesday.

STAFF REPORTS and UPDATES

CH2MHill/OMI public works report included a NPDES DMR Compliance Check sheet that Mr. Minard noted was well drafted and showed that the City was well within the State and Federal parameters. The unaccounted for water has increased again, however the City has had repairs and a leak issue, that could have contributed to the increase.

Jim Minard noted in his Planning/Administration report that the City has a Park Grant for a trail and picnic area up at the top of the hill. Minard would be requesting \$2000 of the \$11,500 from Benton County Foundation to put some trails in. Councilor Koroush wondered how it would be maintained. Mr. Minard noted that maintenance should not be any more than the City currently does in that area, as the parks were meant to be rustic.

The offer to purchase Belknap Springs property for about \$5500 needs to be addressed.

In addition to the Clean Water Grants from the DEQ for a Storm Water Master Plan and a Clean Water Master Plan update, the City could apply for available RUS/USDA grants.

The Planning Commission would be meeting sometime around the first of March to discuss TMDL issues.

Catie Mange' passed out Library Committee Meeting minutes. She reported that the Library diagonal front doors were in and every day there seems to be such progress. Councilor Harry Myers asked whether the cupolas were facing a different direction than originally designed. He also noted that the power company made big ruts by his house on Depot while working on power for the Library. Mayor Frank Thayer reported that the Bishop of the Church of Latter Day Saints in Junction City had said that they would like to have a church community project and volunteer to do whatever is needed for the Monroe Library.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Paul Canter made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda with the spelling correction to Catie Mange's name and the capitalization of the "C" in Councilor Paul Canters name. Councilor Harry Myers seconded and the motion passed 3 to 0 with Councilor Lonnie Koroush abstaining.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Appointments were made Mayor Thayer as follows:

Employee/Financial Committee

Councilor President Paul Canter

Councilor Carol McGlasson

Councilor Brandy Rainey

Public Works/Public Safety (this committee can appoint their own chairperson)

Councilor David Ballard

Councilor Harry Myers

Councilor Lonnie Koroush

School District Meeting Rotation Schedule: Council Goal - Each Councilor shall rotate to attend the School Board meeting on a bi-monthly basis. Councilor Carol McGlasson would do the first rotation and Councilor Lonnie Koroush would do the second

Goal Status Update report that is in the packets was given by Mr. Minard. Council would like to have Ms. Doris Johnston, of Pacific Power facilitate the Goal Setting meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Cuthbertson's request for consideration on pending System Development Charges was negotiated changing the Water SDC to \$1600 and the Sanitary Sewer to \$1150 with the remainder as per ordinance. Councilor Harry Myers made a motion to accept the negotiated SDC charges as follows: Water \$1600, Sanitary Sewer \$1150, Storm Sewer \$886.16, Transportation \$571.13, Parks \$543.27 and an Administration fee as stipulated by City law. Councilor Lonnie Koroush seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilor Comments and Committee Reports:

Council President Paul Canter reported that Linn Benton Community College was moving their Diesel Mechanic Program from Albany to Lebanon where they would have an updated facility and expand the program to include alternative fuels.

Mayor's Comments:

The City Attorney has been invited to speak at the next meeting concerning procedures and protocols' for Council persons.

Mayor Frank Thayer requested Council consider a motion to approve online banking access for Barb Johnston and to approve himself, Council President Paul Canter and Councilor Carol McGlasson as check signers at Sterling Bank. This is a procedure that is required by Sterling Bank each time the signers on the account change. Councilor Harry Myers made a motion to grant authority for Barb Johnston to have online access to the City's Sterling Bank Account and that the new signers on the account would be Mayor Frank Thayer, Council President Paul Canter and Carol McGlasson. Councilor Carol McGlasson seconded and the motion passed 3 to 0. Councilor Lonnie Koroush abstained.

Mayor Frank Thayer also requested Council consider removing the portable potty at the park for the months of September through May as a cost saving strategy. Councilor Lonnie Koroush noted that the area might still be used for bathroom activities even without the portable potty. Councilor Harry Myers made a motion to remove the portable potty for eight months of the year, using it only in the months of June, July, August and September. Council President Paul Canter seconded and the motion passed 3 to 1.

Mr. Jim Boatwright would like to buy the property where the haunted house is located and park a trailer there and fish. He would allow the haunted house to remain. No decision has to be made right now.

ADJOURN

There being no further business Mayor Thayer adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM.

Signed: _____ Attest: _____
Mayor: Frank Thayer Date Recorder: Barb Johnston Date